

setting an ambient lighting characteristic coefficient according to a manual instruction;

[inputting image data dependent on an input device;

and

effecting correction for the ambient lighting on said inputted image data based on an input device, a display device and said ambient lighting characteristic coefficient, thereby achieving conversion into image data dependent on said display device]

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cst.*

generating a conversion condition for the ambient light from conversion data corresponding to plural light sources having different color rendering properties, based on the ambient lighting characteristic coefficient; and

performing an ambient light correction for inputting data by using the generated conversion condition for the ambient light.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are in the application, with Claims 1, 8-10, 16 and 17, the independent claims herein, having been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent No. 5,956,105 (Hino). Applicants have

carefully considered the Examiner's remarks and the cited reference and respectfully submit that the claims herein are patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent Claim 1 defines an image processing method for converting data dependent on a first illuminating light into data dependent on a second illuminating light. The image processing method includes the steps of storing conversion data for plural illuminating lights having different characteristics, generating data indicating a proportion of synthesis of the plural illuminating lights, corresponding to the second illuminating light, generating a conversion condition from the stored plural conversion data according to the data indicating the proportion of synthesis, and converting data dependent on the first illuminating light into data dependent on the second illuminating light, based on the conversion condition.

Thus, for example, as shown in Figure 6, it is possible to generate conversion condition (CR) from conversion data for plural illuminating lights having different characteristics (CR_hl, CR_hr) according to the data indicating the proportion of synthesis (IH_ks) in lighting characteristics matrix calculating unit 62. That is, the present invention of Claim 1 is characterized by generating the conversion condition suited for second

illuminating light from the stored conversion data for plural illuminating lights.

The applied art of record is not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features. Specifically, Hino discloses a method of correcting a color display based on ambient light conditions. According to Hino, Hino describes a method to correct lighting of an input image data according to ambient light as shown in Figure 8 and, that brightness of a CRT changes according to a luminance of the ambient light as shown in Figure 6 and correction is performed according to the equation discussed at column 8, lines 23-37. But, unlike the present invention, α and β are values adjusted according to ambient light and used directly as conversion conditions. As such, Hino fails to disclose to generate data indicating a proportion of synthesis of the plural illuminating lights, corresponding to the second illuminating light and generating the conversion condition from the stored plural conversion data according to the data indicating the proportion of synthesis. Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable over Hino.

Claims 8 and 9 are apparatus and computer-readable medium claims, respectively, corresponding to Claim 1 and are believed to be allowable.

Amended independent Claim 10 defines an image processing method for converting inputting data into data

dependent on an ambient light. The image processing method includes the steps of setting an ambient lighting characteristic coefficient according to a manual instruction, generating a conversion condition for the ambient light from conversion data corresponding to plural light sources having different color rendering properties, based on the ambient lighting characteristic coefficient and performing an ambient light correction for inputting data by using the generated conversion condition for the ambient light.

By virtue of the foregoing method, conversion data corresponds to plural light sources having different color rendering properties in addition to generating the conversion conditions suited for second illuminating light from the stored conversion data for plural illuminating lights.

As discussed above with respect to Claim 1, Hino discloses that brightness of a CRT changes according to luminance of the ambient light as shown in Figure 6 and correction is performed according to the equation described at column 8, lines 23-37. However, the α and β values in Hino are values adjusted in accordance with ambient light and are used directly as conversion conditions. Because the present invention of Claim 10 is not merely directed to an image processing method to generate the conversion condition according to ambient light, Hino fails to disclose generating a conversion condition for ambient light from conversion data

corresponding to plural light sources having different color rendering properties based on an ambient light characteristic coefficient and performing an ambient light correction for inputting data by using the generated conversion condition of the ambient light. As such, Hino does not disclose that conversion data corresponds to plural light sources having different color rendering properties in addition to generating the conversion condition suited for second illuminating light from stored conversion data for plural illuminating lights. Accordingly, Claim 10 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 16 and 17 are apparatus and computer-readable medium claims corresponding to Claim 10 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons given above.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All

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Respectfully submitted,



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